

Message Text

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51

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00

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INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4757

EXDIS

PARIS FOR SISCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

SUBJ: ISRAELI DISPUTE WITH UN OVER CHECKPOINTS

REF: (A) TEL AVIV 9183 (B) USUN 4698

1. VIEWS EXPRESSED IN REFTEL A GENERALLY COINCIDE WITH OUR OWN. WHAT THIS INCIDENT ILLUSTRATES IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT IT MAY, ON OCCASION, BE IMPOSSIBLE TO RECONCILE TWO CONFLICTING CONCEPTS, I.E. THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EGYPTIAN/ISRAELI AGREEMENT AND THE DESIRABILITY THAT THE TWO PARTIES SETTLE THESE MATTERS BETWEEN THEMSELVES. THAT IS WHY LAST SENTENCE REFTEL B INCLUDED WORD "MERELY".

2. IF THE DISPUTE IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH, COULD ENDANGER THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT OR JEOPARDIZE THE AGREEMENT ITSELF, THEN WE BELIEVE THESE FACTORS MAY BE OVER-RIDING.

3. UN DOES HAVE A ROLE WHICH IS SPELLED OUT IN THE AGREEMENT AND IT CANNOT REALISTICALLY BE EXPECTED TO CONFIDENTIAL

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STAND ASIDE WHILE THE TWO SIDES NEGOTIATE DETAILS IN WHICH IT IS DIRECTLY INVOLVED. NOR CAN IT REFUSE AT LEAST TO OFFER GOOD OFFICES IF REQUESTED TO BY ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER. AS PARA 11 USUN 4698 POINTS OUT SIILASVUO IS

TO PROVIDE GOOD OFFICES "IF ACCEPTED BY BOTH SIDES".
IN THIS CASE THEY WERE NOT ACCEPTED BY ISRAELIS AND,
SIILASVUO APPARENTLY DID NOT INSIST.

4. USUN 4698 DID NOT RECOMMEND ANY SUG ACTION BUT WE
DID WISH TO INDICATE THAT, IN SOME CASES, ISRAELI INSISTENCE
ON OBSERVANCE ITS PRINCIPLE OF DEALING DIRECTLY WITH OTHER
SIDE COULD IN FACT BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE AND ENDANGER
IMPLEMENTATION OF CEASEFIRE.

5. RESPONSIBLE UN OFFICIALS CLEARLY BELIEVE THAT UN IS
NOT A PARTY TO THE AGREEMENT AND THAT IT SHOULD NOT STAND
IN THE WAY OF DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN TWO SIDES.
HOWEVER THEY DO BELIEVE THAT IT SHOULD HAVE A ROLE, IF
NECESSARY AND IF WANTED, TO HELP FACILITATE AGREEMENT OF
PARTIES SO THAT UN CAN CARRY OUT ITS MANDATE.

6. THEREFORE WE BELIEVE THERE IS NO BASIC DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN EMBASSY TEL AVIV AND USUN IN THIS MATTER. RATHER
WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE IMMENSELY DETAILED, FREQUENTLY DIFFI-
CULT NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ISRAELI/EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT MAY,
OF NECESSITY, OCCASIONALLY REQUIRE A LOCAL UN INPUT.
IN NEW YORK WE LOSE SIGHT AT OUR PERIL OF THE FACT THAT
SOME MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ARE LITERALLY
ITCHING TO GET INTO THE ACT. KIND OF DISPUTE THAT HAS
OCCURRED OVER KM 119 CHECKPOINT SINCE YESTERDAY GIVES
THEM EXACTLY KIND OF EXCUSE THEY SEEK TO CONVENE
SC MEETING. IN THIS CASE MEETING WOULD ADVERSELY INJECT
SC DIRECTLY INTO SITUATION AND CONCEIVABLY RESULT IN
DRAFT RES INCLUDING CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL WHICH US MIGHT
HAVE TO VETO. CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH DELETERIOUS SC INVOLVE-
MENT WOULD ONLY COMPLICATE AND MAKE MORE DIFFICULT FURTHER
PROGRESS.
SCALI

CONFIDENTIAL

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